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REMARKS

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3 - 8 and 10 - 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Jauregui. Claims 2 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jauregui in view of Martin et al. Claims 9 and 18 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner's review is appreciated. In view of the above amendment and following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding objections and rejections and allow the present application to issue.

By way of the present amendment, new claim 20 is original claim 9 rewritten in independent form, and new claim 21 is original claim 18 rewritten in independent form. In view of the indication of patentability, these newly added claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

With regard to the outstanding rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a), each which rely upon Jauregui, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider these rejections in view of the present amendments to claims 1 and 13, and the original language of claim 10. With regard to independent claim 1, this claim now recites with each means for variably setting a resistance: "... while simultaneously permitting motion, to thereby dampen said tremors" As the Examiner will observe, the Jauregui patent describes each of the means for variably setting a resistance that the Examiner has identified (1, 23, 28, and 31) as simple locking devices, which are either loose or locked, but not which are used to set resistance **during** translation. There is no teaching or suggestion therein of providing a variable resistance while simultaneously permitting motion, nor is there any teaching or suggestion of providing controlled resistance to dampen tremors.

Original claim 10 recites: "... having means to effectively dampen muscle tremors **during** said suspending and translating" The Jauregui patent and the Examiner's office action are silent on this feature.


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Amended claim 13 similarly recites: "... a means for variably setting a resistance to said translating to adjust resistance to different needs of individual users while simultaneously permitting said translating"

The Martin et al patent does not provide any teachings or support which is beneficial. Instead, the Martin et al patent simply teaches the use of a brass-tipped screw "to prevent galling against the pump head" in a pump head quick connect assembly. Clearly, the Martin et al patent has no teachings nor suggestions of benefit to those working in the field of the present invention, nor to the apparatus of Jauregui.

Since each of the independent claims now recite means which vary resistance during movement, which permits a person's tremors to be controlled effectively, and since the Jauregui and Martin et al patents are silent on this point, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the present rejection of record and allow the present application to issue as a patent. No new matter is introduced by the present amendment. However, should there remain any open issues in this application which might be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at 320-363-7296 to further discuss the advancement of this application.

Sincerely,


Albert W. Watkins
reg. 31,676